



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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4 February 1992

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Chad

Commentary on 29 Jan Rebel Attack in Lake Chad

AB0402111792 Ndjamenat Radiodiffusion Nationale Tchadienne in French 1900 GMT 1 Feb 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] The policy of tolerance and forgiveness with a view to achieving unity and concord among all sons of Chad and to establishing a state where there is rule of law recently led to the release of some of our countrymen implicated in various attacks on state security. In choosing dialogue and pardon, the head of state and, hence, the authorities have responded to the deep aspirations of the Chadian people. Peace is the only condition for the restoration of a democratic society in our country. Unfortunately, certain fellow countrymen with a propensity for disorder and anarchy are fighting against this democratization of Chadian public life, and are trying to torpedo it despite the government's preparedness to find peaceful and amicable solutions to all our (?grievances). So, despite all these laudable efforts the enemies of peace, according to reliable sources, on Wednesday, 29 January attacked government forces' positions in the Tchoukou-Hadjer area of Lake Chad Prefecture.

These rebels—about 400 men—survivors of the latest clashes in Lake Chad region, were defeated by government forces resulting in several deaths in their ranks, including the rebel chiefs Torbo Ousman and Kosei Soukaya, former commanders of Hissein Habre's hordes. Some injured members of the rebel forces were sent to Ndjamenat for treatment at (Badjirni) Hospital.

As can be seen, despite the clemency measures taken by the head of state, some countrymen, moved by the folly of [word indistinct], continue to provoke useless bloodshed. The ever vigilant Chadian Armed Forces will, whenever the situation demands, always be able to stand up courageously to our people's calls for security.

On its part, the government remains convinced about the justness of this policy of tolerance and forgiveness. Moreover, it is in this light that a delegation of wisemen, led by the secretary of state for interior, Ngamai Djari, is about to leave the capital for Garah Region where some armed groups are reportedly defusing the tension. This trip to Garah Region is part of the accompanying measures taken in connection with the recent release of a certain number of our fellow countrymen.

The government remains convinced that only peace, dialogue, and forgiveness can favor the emergence of a democratic society in Chad.

Gabon

Students' Strike Continues; Auditorium Burned Down

AB0402111992 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] The strike by Omar Bongo University students continues. Over the weekend, university administration officials and the Gabonese higher education minister, Michel Anchouey, met with the strikers who have been asking, among other things, for the full payment of three months of scholarship arrears and the creation of a cooperative fund within the university. Early this morning, at dawn, the university auditorium was burned down by an unknown person. This person remains unknown. Our reporter Raphael Badinga was on the scene and he interviewed a group of students, including their deputy spokesman, Aime Mapagou, who defended the student's case.

[Begin recording] [Mapagou] The strike has not toughened. It is not an effective and determining cause of the auditorium fire though it may be a secondary cause. This morning, at 0530, we were all flabbergasted on campus. In spite of all the suspicions of the student community, we can say that the student general assembly could not foresee what happened. It is an act of perversity for which the student general assembly has no explanation. For the time being, we cannot tell who did it. Is it an extremist student or someone from outside the student community? We cannot tell and we believe that the university administration officials together with the relevant authorities will arrest the person who committed the crime, or better still, find the cause.

[Badinga] Is there any security on campus?

[Mapagou] Concerning security, I would say there is none. At other times, Gendarmerie officers more or less ensured security at the entrance to the campus, but at present there is no security. We do know that the area is under the control of the Gendarmerie though. [end recording]

This concerns the burning of the Omar Bongo University student auditorium. Now, what was the outcome of talks between the authorities and students. Here is what Aime Mapagou and another student, a member of the provisional bureau of the [word indistinct] student committee, told Raphael Badinga:

[Begin recording] [Mapagou] In fact, the issue for the students was to defend their case. Why are we striking? As the activities of our association are banned, students—at this very moment—are without any structure or association. The meeting focused on these two issues and the full payment of the October, November, and December scholarship arrears.

[Badinga] Concretely, what was the higher education minister's reaction when he met with you?

[Unidentified student] After acknowledging the relevance of our case, the minister said he would report the case to the government because he could not make any decision on the matter. He, therefore, promised to meet with us within the next few days.

[Badinga] People say it will be on Tuesday, that is tomorrow. Is that possible?

[Unidentified] I do not believe that a date has been set, but we are waiting to see what will happen in the next few days, because we need to resume classes as soon as possible. Students should not be forced to toughen their stand. I, therefore, believe that we will have an answer in the next few days. [end recording]

Equatorial Guinea

Obiang on Formation of Exiled Oppositionists' Body

PM0402110092 Madrid ABC in Spanish 22 Jan 92 p 34

[EFE report: "Guinea: Obiang 'Unaware' of Any Opposition Committee"]

[Text] Malabo—Equatorial Guinean President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo said at a news conference yesterday that he had "no knowledge" of the formation of a committee by the opposition in exile to negotiate the transition in Guinea, which was communicated on 15 January to the Guinean ambassador in Madrid for him to convey the information to Obiang. "Oppositionists can come whenever they want to present their own options," the Equatorial Guinean president added, "but since talk started in Guinea about the government's starting a democratization process we have not received a request from any opposition party wanting to take part in these proceedings. I think they use the excuse that they are unable to come here. Now I learn they they are to enjoy the support of the Spanish Government to pay their fares. I congratulate them," he added. [passage omitted]

President Obiang Inaugurates 'First' Oil Field

AB0402111092 Malabo Radio Nacional de Guinea Ecuatorial Network in Spanish 0600 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Excerpt] President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, head of state and founding chairman of the Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea, and Mrs. Constanca Nguema Mbasogo, have chaired at Punta de Europa district, the official inauguration ceremony of the first oil field of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea known as Alba oil field. This field, which was discovered in 1984 by the Spanish Guinea Oil Company, also contains gas, and is located 36 km away from Malabo City, that is 56 km away from Luba, capital of Bioko Sur Province.

The ceremony was also attended by the transition prime minister, Sylvestre Siale Bileka, the speaker of the National Assembly, the president of the Supreme Court,

members of the transition government, representatives of the Catholic Church and of the Reformed Church of Equatorial Guinea. Also present were members of the diplomatic corps and heads of international missions and organizations as well as senior civil servants.

Speaking on the occasion, the deputy chairman of (Walter International) Corporation stated that the launching of production of the Alba oil field and the completion of the facilities at Punta de Europa district actually constitute a landmark in Equatorial Guinea's history. Facilities exist for the storage of approximately 300,000 barrels of extracted crude oil, the sale of which will yield substantial financial revenues for the Equatorial Guinean Government. [passage omitted]

Zaire

Prime Minister Nguza on National Conference

LD0302233392 Kinshasa Zaire OZRT Television Network in French 1900 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Remarks by Prime Minister Nguza Karl-I-Bond to reporter Tabamba Dassot at Ndjili airport on his return from Lubumbashi and Zambia; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] You ask what advantages there are for a country like Zaire belonging to a community such as the Preferential Trade Area [PTA], which brings together the states of southern Africa and east Africa.

First, there is the fact that the Organization of African Unity [OAU] has proposed that all African states should be able, in the framework of their regional development, to start putting regional economic integration into effect. [passage omitted]

There is also a general point. You know that at the world level now, the common market, the countries of the world are trying to form big economic markets. That is the case with the European Common Market, and you have seen that there is a free trade zone between the United States and Canada. Africa can only find its salvation in such a framework, one of economic integration. We must also think more and more of directing our economic interest toward the south and in particular toward South Africa. [passage omitted]

It is becoming increasingly clear that a country like Zaire cannot ignore the presence of South Africa, and we must now think of turning our economy and our cooperation toward South Africa. This was also discussed in Zambia, and all the countries there reached agreement on this. Zaire's decision to join the PTA was strongly applauded, because the PTA is now going to merge with the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC], which is the economic community of the states of southern Africa. This is a big market for

southern and eastern Africa, and the economic advantages for our country are certain.

Now, you ask me a national question. You speak to me about the national sovereign conference and the decisions which have been made as far as the suspension of the proceedings is concerned, and the proposals in the direction of a national roundtable; you ask me what difference there is.

The difference exists more in the organization than in the spirit. The spirit of the national conference remains. What is the spirit of the national conference, at least the spirit of the person who created, organized, and convened the national conference, because it is a presidential order which gives legitimacy to the national conference? No one at the national conference has been elected—no one. No one can say that he represents the people at it. You can only represent the people if they have mandated you, but no one has been formally mandated by the people. We have mandated ourselves. No one in the national conference can boast that he has received a mandate from the people—no one. The mandate of the people can only be given by elections. So, the legitimacy of the national conference stems from the order which created it, organized it, and convened it.

And what does that order say? It says that the national conference has three tasks. The first is to prepare a plan for a democratic constitution to be submitted to a popular referendum. The second is to draw up an electoral code, that is what is called an electoral law. The third is to propose election deadlines, hence an election timetable. This is clear. Well, if there is a national roundtable, it will have these tasks to carry out. There you have it as far as the spirit is concerned.

As far as the organization, even the composition are concerned, we must take account of the fact that one cannot draft a constitution with 3,000 participants; we must take account of the fact that the state budget is not capable of supporting such things.

Some people tell me: The people can make a collection. However, one must not insult the people. With people already finding it difficult to live, with this poverty affecting the population—it is there, it is always present—how can we then go and ask this same population to pay a subscription to allow others to put daily allowances in their pockets. One must not insult the people.

It is said that foreign states can provide the finance. But let us have some pride, gentlemen. If these foreigners have money to spend, let them give it to alleviate the poverty of the population, but not to interfere in our internal affairs, unless we now want to sell our country to foreigners. We are Zairians, and if we are patriots, let us resolve our problems among ourselves.

[Excerpts] That is why I have said that we must have a roundtable with much more restricted numbers. I cannot yet give the number—we have to discuss this with our

friends—but whatever the number, the principle of representation is important. Each region and the political parties—we now have major currents in the political parties—should be represented in the same way. [passage omitted] There are major currents which exist and which can be represented in a quite democratic way in this group which I have called the national roundtable.

I will not accept threats to the press. We must be honest, and I have to say that the press has contributed greatly to the process of democratization. I have always paid tribute—and I do this with pleasure—to all my journalist friends who have most courageously defended democratic principles, and I hope that they can continue their work in the press. I have always said this. If they wish to criticize me, that is their right. [passage omitted]

Now, regarding what you call a threat here—this simply reflects the fact that there was an abortive coup d'etat. If our friends say there was no abortive coup d'etat, that it was a plot by the government, the seriousness stems from the fact that there were deaths. A government that was capable of carrying out such a macabre plot—well that government does not deserve to exist. So eventually the courts will have to decide who is right, those who speak of a macabre plot, or the government. If the government has lied, it should go. If it is you who are telling public opinion that the deaths which were shown were not really deaths and that in fact it was a plot, and if you cannot prove that, well it is you who will have to defend yourselves in the courts.

Government Said Under Pressure; Strike Call Make
AB0302221592 London: BBC World Service in English
1830 GMT 3 Feb 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Pressure continues to mount on Zaire's prime minister Nguza Karl-I-Bond over his decision to suspend the country's top star national conference. Yesterday, opposition groups and trade unions called for a protest general strike for tomorrow. Bossongo Boyemi telexed this report from Kinshasa.

[Begin studio announcer recording] In a joint press conference yesterday, opposition groups and trade union leaders said that the strike would be effective and would be national. They said that they would paralyze the country. Trade unionists also demanded the resignation of the Zairian Government. They said that the government was no longer following the objective it did set itself, namely supporting the work of the national conference, revitalizing the country's economy, and restoring stability. The trade unionists have rejected Prime Minister Nguza Karl-I-Bond's proposals for roundtable discussions which he suggested as an alternative to reconvening the national conference. The trade unionists have insisted that their motives are apolitical and that they only wish that the national conference be able to pursue its work. The prime minister responded to

the call for a general strike today on his return from an official visit to Zambia. He said that the government was not prepared to see the authority of the state damaged and was ready for a show of force.

In Kinshasa today, there was a feeling of excited anticipation about the outcome of tomorrow's strike. Government civil servants, however, do not share that excitement. They have not been paid for 40 days and wished that any strike should take place after they received their salaries.

Meanwhile, in a public declaration entitled, proposals for a new society in Zaire, bishops here have also called for the resumption of the national conference. They said that the prime minister's suspension of the conference amounted to a unilateral and unjustified act. The bishops said that a successful resumption of the national conference was vital if Zaire was to achieve democracy, unity, and peace. But if the conference was to resume, the bishops warned that participants would have to look beyond short-term and particular interests and reward the people's faith in them. The bishops also appealed to the government to lift restrictions on the press and other forms of media in Zaire. [end recording]

Ethiopia

Further on Visit by Egyptian President Mubarak

Meles, Mubarak Meet, Exchange Speeches

NC0302181792 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1504 GMT
3 Feb 92

[Text] Addis Ababa, 3 Feb (MENA)—President Hosni Mubarak and Ethiopian President Meles Zenawi held bilateral talks today in the presidential palace in Addis Ababa.

After the approximately two-hour talks, the two presidents headed to Addis Ababa Airport to receive Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida.

Members of the Egyptian delegation accompanying President Mubarak also held talks with their Ethiopian counterparts.

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im, the president's press secretary, said the talks between Presidents Mubarak and Meles were conducted in a very friendly atmosphere and dealt with the eternal ties between the two countries.

He added that the two presidents exchanged friendly speeches at the outset of the meeting and stressed the need to support and develop cooperation in various spheres, especially industry, agriculture, irrigation, trade, and the media.

He noted that President Mubarak was warmly welcomed, particularly because it was his first visit since the recent developments in Ethiopia and President Meles' legitimate assumption of power. President Meles, the press secretary remarked, has clearly begun to achieve security and stability in this vital region of Africa that has great influence on Egyptian and Arab security.

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Mun'im noted that President Meles and Egyptian President Mubarak exchanged speeches upon their arrival at the Presidential Palace in Addis Ababa and before the luncheon Meles held in honor of President and Mrs. Mubarak and the delegation accompanying them.

In his speech, the Ethiopian president said that President Mubarak's visit to Ethiopia took place without elaborate arrangements, which confirms Egypt's and Ethiopia's commitment to do everything possible to strengthen their already strong and positive relations.

Ethiopian President Meles emphasized that Egyptian-Ethiopian relations are characterized by continuity and amity, adding that this did not arise in a vacuum because nature itself united our two countries, thanks to the great river that binds us.

Our great responsibility is to work toward strengthening this source, which contributes to the cohesion and solidarity between our two countries, so that cooperation between us may reach a higher level. Within this context,

I affirm to your excellency that the transitional Ethiopian Government is determined to exert every effort possible to establish a strong foundation for stronger relations with Egypt. Removing the former dictatorial regime has enabled our country to build stronger relations with our neighbors based primarily on mutual confidence.

We have indeed achieved much in this respect and we will continue to make more progress so as to rid ourselves of the former regime's effects on our relations with our neighbors and to eliminate any obstacles standing in the way of improving the conditions of our people and the peoples of the region and so that we all may cooperate in confronting the human, political, and economic problems from which the region's peoples are suffering.

The Ethiopian president noted in his speech that Ethiopia is now trying to change its economic, social, and political system to create a new Ethiopia founded on the principles of fraternity, equality, and a democratic system of government. New Ethiopia will not be a prison for the nation but a state founded on its people's free contribution.

In this context, we look forward to stronger relations between Egypt and Ethiopia. I am confident that your presence here among us will provide a strong motive for achieving this goal.

In conclusion, the Ethiopian president said that President and Mrs. Mubarak's visit is a fruitful and useful visit of great significance.

Addressing President Mubarak, the Ethiopian president said: You are pursuing a positive policy to build a bridge of friendship and cooperation with other states. This is evident in your relations with neighboring states.

In response to President Meles, President Mubarak delivered a speech in which he expressed his appreciation for the warm reception he was accorded and for the clear sincerity President Meles exhibited in his speech, which he regarded as a true and clear reflection of the special ties between our two countries.

President Mubarak emphasized that Egypt and Ethiopia share the same fate not only because of the Nile but also because of our mutual heritage and the ideology we share based on our common future. In the near and distant past, we worked hand in hand toward the same goals and purposes. Today we stand united and resolved to realize our noble goals. No state is more interested in the prosperity of the Ethiopian people than Egypt.

We have followed with interest and admiration the courageous and wise measures you have taken in recent months to end the civil war and open a new chapter and history for Ethiopia. The steps you have taken to achieve democracy are truly significant. You are also pursuing a positive policy to build a bridge of friendship and cooperation with other states. This is evident in your relations with neighboring states.

President Mubarak welcomed and supported President Meles' initiative in calling for an international conference to discuss humanitarian issues, such as refugee relief. His excellency said: We are following with interest and admiration the efforts you are exerting in the field of economic and social development. We wish you success in this field because the real challenge nations are now facing is raising everyone's living standard. Because we are interested in the success of these attempts, we are completely prepared to share our expertise with you and promote our cooperation with Ethiopia in all domains. We regard our meeting today as a prelude to new relations. We would be extremely happy to receive you and your colleagues in Egypt soon to strengthen and cement our relations and friendship. We thank you and implore Almighty God to guide your steps on the path to peace, progress, dignity, and humanity.

Meets Visiting Nigerian President, Departs

NC0302184392 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1601 GMT
3 Feb 92

[Text] Addis Ababa, 3 Feb (MENA)—Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has said that President Husni Mubarak's talks with Ethiopian President Meles Zenawi dealt with current African issues, bilateral relations, Middle East developments, and the peace talks.

In a statement before President Mubarak left Addis Ababa, the information minister added that an hour-long summit was held at Addis Ababa Airport between President Mubarak, President Meles, and Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida, who arrived in the Ethiopian capital at 1600.

Al-Sharif said that President Mubarak also met OAU Secretary General Salim Ahmed Salim and reviewed a number of topics relating to African cooperation.

The information minister noted that President Mubarak's visit to Ethiopia is the first since the broad political and economic changes there that realized the Ethiopian people's desire for political and economic freedom, good-neighborliness, and interaction with African causes.

[Cairo MENA in Arabic at 1530 GMT reports that President Mubarak concluded his visit to Ethiopia, adding: "He headed for Manama, Bahrain, because bad weather conditions in Egypt prevented his return to Cairo."]

Political Groups Issue Resolutions on 'Charter'

EA0302210092 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network
in Amharic 1700 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Excerpt] Ten political organizations have expressed their intention to make every effort to correctly implement the charter of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia, as well as directives and notices and decrees issued by the Council of Representatives.

The Hareri National League, the Oromo People's Democratic Front, the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Oromia, the Ogaden National Liberation Front, the Gurage People's Liberation Front, the Ethiopian People's Democratic Front, the (?Horial) Democratic Front, the Gurage Liberation Front, the Democratic Movement (?Front) and the Democratic Unity Party, said this in the resolutions they issued yesterday at the conclusion of a two-day peace conference held in the town of Dire Dawa [eastern Ethiopia]. [passage omitted]

Kenya

Moi Comments on Legislative Elections, ID Cards

EA0302181192 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting
Corporation Network in English 1300 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today announced that the ruling party, KANU [Kenyan African National Union], will hold elections in Kirinyaga district [north of Nairobi] on the 15th of this month, in order to give wananchi [citizens] a chance to elect leaders of their own choice. The president further said the party headquarters will soon announce a timetable for elections in other districts so as to ensure wananchi had confidence in the party leadership right from the grass-root level. He said among the other districts where elections are expected to be conducted soon are Laikipia, Kiambu, Murang'a and Nyeri [all in south central Kenya]. The president said KANU was the mass party which enjoyed overwhelming support, unlike the emerging parties which did not guarantee unity of Kenyans.

President Moi was addressing a huge public rally at Kerugoya stadium in Kirinyaga district. The president said KANU will continue conducting its affairs openly and democratically in order to ensure that wananchi played an effective role in party affairs.

Noting that before independence Kenya was fragmented into various nationalities, President Moi said KANU has played a significant role in the prevailing unity of all Kenyans. He said because of the unity and stability Kenya has been able to attain a big level of development, especially in education and other areas. The president deplored squabbling and division among the Kirinyaga people which he said was being fueled by leaders. [passage omitted]

President Moi said the primary aim of him having a rally in Kirinyaga was to ensure that unity was maintained in the district. He therefore advised wananchi in the district not to allow petty differences to divide them.

President Moi noted that the future of the youth of this nation depended on good guidance, and added this was what leaders were expected to do. The president also announced that those Kenyans who qualified to obtain identity cards will now be required to pay 20 shillings instead of the current 40 shillings. He said he was aware

that wananchi were faced with many difficulties, adding that the lowering of the fees charged on national identity cards will ensure that the youth obtained them with ease. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile, President Moi said today that the pressure to cut down the number of civil servants and teachers will be resisted because such a move would worsen the unemployment situation and cause general instability in the country. The president urged Kenyans to prepare to make sacrifices to ensure that those jobs which are threatened do not lose them. [sentence as heard] He said he himself was prepared to forfeit part of his salary as his contribution to ensure that Kenyans do not lose their jobs. [passage omitted]

President Moi said the present jostling opposition by political parties would greatly reduce the pace of development that has been maintained since independence. [passage omitted]

Somalia

Ali Mahdi Mohamed Urges World Military Presence

PM0302164692 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 30 Jan 92 p 4

[Sayyid Ahmad Khalifah report: "Somalia's 'Provisional' President Tells AL-HAWADITH: 'International Forces Needed To Bolster Cease-Fire'"]

[Excerpts] Jeddah—AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT yesterday contacted Somali's provisional president, Ali Mahdi Mohamed, by radio and asked him for his assessment of the cease-fire announced in Mogadishu. He said that to hasten the dispatch of international forces to Mogadishu is the certain guarantee for the continuation of the cease-fire. He also said that the decision was steadfast until yesterday, but it will remain fragile unless it is backed and guarded by an international effort.

President Ali Mahdi described these positive results as "the outcome of internal efforts reflected in the major changes on the political and tribal scene, resulting in increasing national pressures for a cease-fire and the other side's adherence to this approach, which we agreed with and have always advocated." He also said that international efforts played a major role in the move toward logical and political solutions to Somalia's problems.

President Ali Mahdi estimated the victims of the recent fighting at about 20,000 dead and tens of thousands wounded, saying that there are no medical supplies or treatment for the latter. He pointed out that, according to very conservative figures, 60 percent of the capital's government and private buildings and installations have been destroyed.

Somalia's provisional president praised the efforts of the Arab League and the Islamic Conference Organization and called on the Arab states to provide prompt aid. [passage omitted]

De Klerk Critic on CP Role in Codesa; ANC

MB3101172892 Johannesburg South African Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] The state President, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, says that the Conservative Party has no reason not to participate in Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa], because self-determination will be on the agenda as a matter of course.

Mr. de Klerk said during the no-confidence debate in the House of Assembly that each party could be able to state its views freely at the Codesa talks. The state president denied that the National Party [NP] and the ANC [African National Congress] were allies. The NP still differed fundamentally from the ANC on key issues, but this was not impeding negotiations.

President de Klerk repeated his demand that the ANC end the armed struggle. He said this was necessary before it could become partners in a new constitution. Mr. de Klerk said that no party could be allowed to retain a private army, and that unless these problems were solved Codesa would fail.

SACP's Hani: IFP, Police Ban ANC in Natal

MB0202172992 Johannesburg SABA in English 1638 GMT 2 Feb 92

[By Craig Doonan]

[Text] Empangeni, Natal Jan 2 SABA—SA [South African] Communist Party [SACP] leader and Umkhonto weSizwe [Spear of the Nation (MK); ANC military wing] Chief of Staff Chris Hani on Sunday charged that Inkatha, assisted by the police, had banned the African National Congress [ANC] in northern Natal.

Mr Hani was speaking at the ANC's 80th anniversary celebrations in Empangeni on Sunday afternoon, shortly after police had prevented his entourage from entering nearby Enseleni township where they were to view sites of political violence.

"The ANC is unbanned everywhere else but in northern Natal where it is banned by the police and Inkatha...Here we're still illegal thanks to Inkatha," Mr Hani told an excited crowd of about 2,000 packed into Empangeni town hall.

According to Mr Hani, police had refused ANC officials entry into Enseleni as a large group of Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] supporters, armed with sticks and spears, had massed at a police station near the entrance.

Mr Hani accused the police of collaborating with the IFP, by not dispersing the crowd or ensuring the ANC officials a safe route through the township.

A Durban police liaison officer was not able to comment on the incident on Sunday evening.

Mr Hani said the situation in northern Natal had to be urgently addressed by the ANC's national leadership and he urged supporters to work for unity in the region and build an "underground"—specifically defence units.

The MK leader hit out at the IFP for allegedly provoking and attacking ANC supporters in the Zululand region and charged that Inkatha had "terrorised" people into joining the organisation there.

Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's alleged reluctance to test his support at the ballot box proved that the organisation was aware it did not have the support it claimed to have, Mr Hani added.

"They're a small group of power-hungry politicians and we'll give them a beating politically...Once the police are removed there will be no Inkatha and once Inkatha is removed there will be no violence," the popular leader told the chanting crowd.

Referring to Inkatha's refusal to sign Codesa's [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] Declaration of Intent in which a unitary South Africa was envisaged, Mr Hani said "this shows they're trying to protect themselves and not everyone else".

"The struggle for apartheid should not be divided. We don't believe in a federation or a divided South Africa."

However, Mr Hani emphasised that the ANC did subscribe to a policy of local and regional government to ensure economic upliftment and development of regions.

The ANC's Natal Midlands leader, Mr Harry Gwala, addressed the crowd earlier, giving a history of the organisation and also condemning the IFP for allegedly instigating township violence.

"If they come to us with peace, we'll go to them with peace but if they attack us, we'll attack them," Mr Gwala said to loud applause.

By fighting against the ANC/SACP/COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] alliance the IFP was fighting against liberation, he added.

ANC Journal Interviews Nelson Mandela

MB0302164792 Johannesburg MAYIBUYE in English Feb 92 pp 7-10

[Interview with Nelson Mandela, African National Congress president; date and place not specified; passages in boldface as published]

[Text] MAYIBUYE: In the January 8 statement the NEC [National Executive Committee] asserts that the strategic initiative is firmly in the hands of the democratic forces. What are the facts?

NM [Nelson Mandela]: One of the most important political developments in the history of this country is the holding of the Convention for a Democratic South

Africa (Codesa). That process is firmly in our grasp. We have the support of the majority of the political parties. No other organisation has enjoyed the support which we have been able to muster for this process.

Secondly, this is merely a culmination of an initiative which we have taken since 1986 when we outlined our positions for a negotiated settlement. We have forced the regime to abandon its ideological position of apartheid—in whose defence they sent thousands of leading activists to jail and even took lives—and to embrace our position of a non-racial society. That is one of the greatest achievements which puts us ahead of the regime strategically.

MAYIBUYE: But the regime still controls huge resources including the army and the police!

NM: It is correct that they control huge resources. But we have grasped this initiative in struggle in spite of the huge resources the regime enjoys. It is also doubtful whether they actually have control of the SADF [South African Defense Force] and the SAP [South African Police]. It is true that they are paying them but that is something totally different from control. The perception that we have is that the government has lost control of the security forces.

MAYIBUYE: Codesa working groups have just gone into session. Can you briefly outline ANC [African National Congress] positions on strategic issues?

NM: We want to use the Codesa platform to create an ideal climate for free political activity. We are confident that we have the support of the masses. It is therefore in our interest as an organisation and in the interest of the entire struggle that there should be a climate for free political activity.

We also have a group on the constitution. We regard the present constitution as illegitimate and discredited. It is therefore necessary for us to have a constitution which will mirror the hopes of the majority of the population in this country. And to have that constitution means that the political process in this country will be normalised.

We are convinced that the present apartheid regime cannot supervise the transition from an apartheid society to a non-racial democracy. That is why, therefore, we have insisted on the setting up of an Interim Government which is going to supervise the transitional process.

We want re-incorporation of the TBVC [Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei] states. We have fought right from the beginning against the policy of separate development, the dismemberment of the country and, specifically, the creation of independent bantustans. There is a working group to deal with this question.

Codesa also has a working group on time frames. We can't set dates as far as that is concerned, except to say that we would like the Interim Government to be introduced within six months at the most. We would like a

Constituent Assembly to be called before the end of the year. That is the ANC's position.

MAYIBUYE: What are the key differences between the ANC and NP [National Party] around which important debates in Codesa will take place?

NM: There are many areas where there is no agreement between the ANC and the NP. Firstly, their constitutional proposals are based on principles designed to prevent the introduction of majority rule. There can be no compromise on that. They just have to accept majority rule.

We are also not in favour of this collegiate in leadership—that there should be three to five presidents or that the presidents should rotate. We are not agreed also on the question of federalism. We know that the regime has always maintained the view of a unitary state. We want that to be maintained. But I must hurry to say that we are not very concerned with labels—unitary state, federalism, regionalism. We want substance.

There are also issues like their proposals for an interim government—means to last many years, and the white referendum. We see this as a cunning trap to delay the democratic process and perpetuate white minority rule.

MAYIBUYE: The ANC has declared 1992 the year of Constituent Assembly elections. Is this possible?

NM: If we did not think that was possible, we would not have made the declaration. As an organisation we are prepared to put aside everything to make sure that Constituent Assembly elections are held this year.

But of course we must work with other political parties, more particularly the regime. We have no doubt that it is the hope and dream of the overwhelming majority—if not all the political parties who have signed the Codesa Declaration of Intent—that a Constituent Assembly should be in place this year. We hope that we will be able to persuade the regime also to take the same position.

MAYIBUYE: In the anniversary statement you identify four areas that an Interim Government must control as well as socio-economic forums. Is the ANC still demanding a comprehensive Interim Government?

NM: No, if you mean that a comprehensive Interim Government should enjoy exactly the same powers as both the existing parliament and executive. We have identified at least the armed forces, state media, budget and electoral processes as areas that should be under firm multi-party control.

These four are absolutely crucial for the transition. We also talk about socio-economic forums to deal with issues like health, education and housing. The details of our position will be addressed in due course.

MAYIBUYE: The ANC rejects the regime's proposals about a transitional government and constitution. Is the ANC in principle against an interim constitution?

NM: Yes, What would be the purpose of having an interim constitution when we can adopt a permanent constitution for the country? If we adopted an interim constitution we would in fact be perpetuating government by the minority. We do not want that. We want a government which expresses the aspirations of the majority of the people in this country.

What this country wants in order to bring about peace and security is a democratic government which has got a broad base. It must be a popular government and not a minority government. That should be done as speedily as possible. There is no need for an interim constitution. There will of course be amendments to the existing constitution for the transition. But that is a different matter.

MAYIBUYE: Don't you think that the National Party is obliged to seek the approval of its constituency about transitional mechanisms, as they promised in the 1989 tricameral election? NM: We see no reason for that. What would be the purpose of us entering these negotiations and coming to decisions if those negotiations and decisions can still be undone by a white minority? Why would the government come and negotiate with us in the first place without a mandate? They told us that they had a mandate to do so.

We do not understand at all the reasons why the government would commit itself to a course of action on the basis that they have authority to do so and then go and duplicate the process and ask again for authority. The regime must now stop thinking in terms of the interests of whites alone. They must think in terms of the entire population of the country. Codesa reflects the entire population of the country and there is no need to consult any particular population group.

MAYIBUYE: The ANC says that the tricameral parliament is illegitimate and illegal but it has agreed that Codesa decisions should be passed by this parliament. Why?

NM: We don't recognise this parliament and we consider it as illegitimate and totally discredited. In fact the United Nations Security Council, at our request, declared the existing constitution null and void. We stand by that position.

Nevertheless, it is the highest legal authority in the country today. Decisions of Codesa cannot be invested with legal authority without getting that legal authority from this parliament.

MAYIBUYE: What happens if parliament doesn't pass Codesa decisions?

NM: If the National Party and other parties in the tricameral parliament are committed to the peaceful process—and Codesa is the gateway through which we must embark on the way to the normalisation of the political process in this country—the present parliament will have to give legal effect to Codesa decisions.

MAYIBUYE: What is your response to allegations that the ANC has deviated from decisions of the Patriotic Front [PF]?

NM: Everything that we are doing is consistent with the decisions that were taken at the PF conference. As you know most of the political organisations which were involved in the PF are now in Codesa. There has been no deviation on the part of the ANC and nobody has indicated to us precisely where we have deviated.

The decision to have an All-Party Congress (now Codesa) convened without delay was taken at the PF conference. The conference also called for an interim Government/Transitional Authority and an elected Constituent Assembly. These are the demands the ANC is pursuing in Codesa. Those who have run away from Codesa are in fact the ones who are violating the decisions of the PF conference.

MAYIBUYE: The Patriotic Conference resolved last October to convene again in six months. What is to happen given the schism with the PAC?

NM: There is nothing that will prevent us from carrying out that resolution of the PF. In fact we are confident that another PF will be convened within the six months from last October.

MAYIBUYE: What is the ANC's approach to the SADF and the SAP in the current phase?

NM: What we demand is an armed force and a police force which are capable of defending the principles on the basis of which a democratic South Africa will be formed. The present army and police force are so structured and have got such a background that we cannot rely exclusively on them to defend those democratic gains. Therefore they will have to be restructured and re-orientated if they are going to be agencies for the protection of democracy.

In the current phase we can on soldiers and police to observe the National Peace Accord principles and join the march to democracy. **MAYIBUYE: What is your assessment of the danger of the extreme rightwing?**

NM: I won't spend any sleepless nights over the threat of military action from the rightwing. They can be of no more danger than the Ossewa Brandwag [Ox Wagon Guard] was during the war years, and that danger the country was able to face.

But the regime must accept the necessity of an Interim Government without delay because, as long as the affairs of the country are run by a white a minority regime, it will be difficult to deal with the rightwing. Ultimately, the rightwing and the problems that its existence raise can only be effectively dealt with by a democratic government, representing the majority.

MAYIBUYE: How will that democratic government deal with them?

NM: If a democratic government is in control of the armed forces and the police, then it is in a better position to deal with the dangers posed by the rightwing.

MAYIBUYE: A military solution?

NM: No, not necessarily a military solution. If you address the grievances of the people and meet their just demands, that is one way of mobilising South Africa on the side of democracy. Any group which is opposed to democracy can easily be sidelined.

MAYIBUYE: In addressing the issue of white fears you recently expressed the opinion that consideration should be given to an entrenched bloc of seats. In view of the rejection of this idea in both the conservative and liberal media, are you reconsidering your views?

NM: What I am concerned with is the importance of addressing white fears. All options must be explored. We have published the most progressive policy in this country and there is no political organisation—either inside or outside parliament—which has a policy that can compare with ours. Despite that whites still fear majority rule, although we have explained that we are not thinking in terms of black majority rule.

By majority rule we mean that a political party which polls the most votes assumes government. That's what has been happening in white politics in this country. Nevertheless they continue being concerned.

We therefore require as the liberation movement to address those fears. I am not just concerned with the question of bloc seats—that is one option.

We must think of other options as well that will address these white fears.

MAYIBUYE: What is your view on the readiness of the ANC to meet current challenges?

NM: We are ready to meet some and are readying ourselves to meet other challenges. We are now in a position to command very large popular support. At the moment there is no other political organisation that commands the mass support that we enjoy.

We are aware, however, of the discrepancy between the membership which we command and the popular support that we enjoy. We must remove that gap and turn that popular support into membership so that we are in a position to conduct an organised and disciplined political struggle and to have a well co-ordinated programmes.

I have already indicated that we are in command as far as the peace process is concerned. We have the support of the majority of parties that are involved in Codesa. Therefore we are in a position potentially to meet the challenges which are posed by minority rule. We are in a position to strive very effectively for the introduction of a democratic government.

'Political Exiles' Expected From Tanzania

MB0302153892 Johannesburg Radio RSA in English
1100 GMT 03 Feb 92

[Text] A group of political exiles is expected to return to South Africa from Tanzania today. Their return follows that of a group of 110 refugees who arrived in South Africa from Zimbabwe last week. A spokesman for the United Nations High Commissioner for refugees has said that so far 1,140 people have returned to South Africa in terms of the High Commissioner's voluntary repatriation program.

The spokesman said it was hoped to fly between 700 and 750 people each week this month, and that if repatriations continued at this rate, the program could be completed by April. He said that more than 2,500 exiles had been cleared to return by the South African authorities.

De Klerk, Mandela Participate in WEF Summit

WA0302182092

For Johannesburg SAPA and TV reportage on the visit by President F. W. de Klerk, and ANC leader Nelson Mandela to Davos, Switzerland, for the World Economic Forum [WEF] there, please see the INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS section of the 3 February West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

For reportage on President De Klerk's visit to the UK, please see the UNITED KINGDOM section of the 3 February West Europe DAILY REPORT.

*** Activities of JRB Youth Organization Outlined**

*** Structure, Goals**

92AF0254A Johannesburg BEELD (JRB Supplement)
in Afrikaans 3 Dec 91 p 2

[Unattributed article: "Young People Being Motivated"]

[Text] The Junior Dispatch Riders Movement [JRB] is an Afrikaans cultural organization which focuses on projects to stimulate leadership development among young Afrikaners and South Afrikaners and thus to promote the Afrikaans language and culture.

Since the establishment of the JRB, the organization has grown to such an extent that by now 13,760 members have been accepted. Since one can be a JR [Junior Dispatch Rider] only until the age of 35, quite a number of JRB members have already left. But they are still considered to be models for the Junior Dispatch Riders and examples of the dynamism that is characteristic of organizations serving age groups between 18 and 35.

The JRB has more than 3,000 paying members, all of whom are actively involved in the projects, and they live up to the goals of the JR in 200 corps active in 141 villages throughout South Africa.

The activities of the JRB are coordinated at the national level by a Dispatch Council consisting of the president, the vice president, a full time secretary, a representative from each of the 11 regions, the editor of the HELIOGRAAF, three council members for national projects, a council member for administration and training, and a council member for liaison.

The members of the Dispatch Council are elected every other year at the Dispatch Consultation, which is the highest decision-making body within the movement and which is attended by representatives from all the corps throughout the country.

The JRB is affiliated with the FAK [Federation of Afrikaner Cultural Associations], and thus belongs to the family which includes, among others, the Voortrekkers [Pioneers], the Federation of Dispatch Riders Corps, the Young Ladies Dynamic, Up-to-Date Ladies, and the South African Academy for Science and Culture.

* Junior City Council

92AF0254B Johannesburg BEELD (JRB Supplement)
in Afrikaans 3 Dec 91

[Unattributed article: "This Is the Way Juniors Serve"]

[Text] The Junior Dispatch Riders Movement [JRB] is actively involved in the development of a highly motivated and service-providing community. Within this context, the Dispatch Council decided in 1984 to make the junior city councils project one of its national projects.

Since then, numerous corps have become involved in junior city councils in their community. The goals of a junior city council are:

- To provide an effective liaison opportunity for students to equip them to be of service to their community;
- To serve as a liaison between the city council and the students in the community who attend school;
- To take on community projects and to involve the youth;
- To develop student leadership qualities and to support them in order for them to become trained, schooled, equipped, and rounded as complete human beings; and
- To play a leading role as students now and later on as adults within their community.

The involvement of Junior Dispatch Riders corps in junior city councils is primarily activating. Junior council members are trained until they are able to accept responsibility for the administration of the junior city council—administratively and monetarily—in consultation with the local city council and other bodies.

Education and training are provided in such areas as the election of representatives, as well as in correct administrative procedures and in handling the relationship between committees and the city council.

There is also education in the basic principles of financial management, personnel management, communication between the community and administrative bodies, negotiations and discussions, and liaison with other institutions.

The junior city council is also encouraged and, wherever necessary, assisted in the handling of actual community projects.

* JRB's Mission

92AF0254C Johannesburg BEELD (JRB Supplement)
in Afrikaans 3 Dec 91 p 4

[Unattributed article: "Mission"; words in italics as published]

[Text] The mission of the Junior Dispatch Riders Movement (JRB) has been tested and honed on all members over a period of two years. It states that it pursues:

The broadening and preservation of the Afrikaans language and culture in religious, economic, socio-community, educational, and governmental areas through the development of leadership abilities among young South Africans.

This mission emphasizes the need for the existence of a central value system which is to be the heartbeat of the movement.

Essential Values

- a. Christianity—The recognition and establishment of the Kingdom of Christ. In everything that we are and that we do as embodied in the love commandment of Christ.
- b. Afrikaner Identity—This means national pride in this identity as a starting point and directed toward the preservation and development of national resources.
- c. Development—As young Christian Afrikaners we strive for the development of people and the environment, and for the use of technology in order to make it possible for all Afrikaners to actualize themselves.
- d. Freedom—We cherish freedom as an essential value within the parameters of Christianity, Nationalism, and Development. Freedom of choice for individuals and groups forms the basis for this value. This includes, among other things, freedom of speech and association and to be free of discrimination and need.

*** Interaction Sought**

92AF0254D Johannesburg BEELD (JRB Supplement)
in Afrikaans 3 Dec 91 p 6

Unattributed article: "Much To Share With Others"]

[Text] From the JRB's [Junior Dispatch Riders Movement] mission and values it can clearly be inferred that the movement does not consider itself an island, but that it actively reaches out to other interest groups in South Africa, and has a great deal of interaction primarily with other young South Africans.

As a matter of fact, the JRB is linked in a program of liaison with other youth organizations throughout the political spectrum. No effort is spared to remain in contact with all Afrikaners who can identify with the values of the JRB.

Furthermore, the JRB's outreach action stretches far beyond the borders of South Africa, and the JRB seeks to actively serve the interests of the Afrikaner language and culture in the remotest corners of the earth.

As an Afrikaner cultural organization it was important for the JRB first of all to make contact with other Afrikaner youth organizations. The first formal liaison talks with another youth group within the framework of the current liaison program took place last October between the JRB and the Student Guard, which is oriented toward a national state.

The goal of these talks was to look for common values and strive, based on common interest in the future of South Africa, and to agree to disagree on certain issues.

The JRB also reached out to youth organizations outside the framework of the Afrikaner cultural community, among which the ANC [African National Congress] Youth League, the Azanian National Youth Unity, and the Inkatha Youth Brigade. The JRB's positions on current issues are continuously discussed with these groups.

The only group which has been kept outside the JRB's liaison program is the South African Communist Party [SAKP]. The JRB feels that there is no common ground with the SAKP in terms of the four values on which the movement's activities and positions are based.

Liaison has been taking place for quite a while now also between the JRB and cultural organizations in the mother countries. The JRB yearly sends two members of the Dispatch Council to the Netherlands and Belgium to maintain contact with similar organizations, to exchange ideas and information, and to promote the interests of Afrikaans as a sister language.

Next January, a JRB delegation will leave for Moscow to look into any interest in Afrikaans at the university there. Plans are also under way for similar liaison tours throughout Africa and to Argentina.

*** History Reviewed**

92AF0254E Johannesburg BEELD (JRB Supplement)
in Afrikaans 3 Dec 91 p 6

[Unattributed article: "This Is How an Ambition Becomes Reality"]

[Text] The birthdate of the JRB [Junior Dispatch Riders Movement] coincides with the establishment of the first junior corps (at the time still referred to as club) on Friday, 12 September 1958, in Pretoria. On that day, about 21 young Afrikaners from Pretoria met in the then well-known Constantia Club in order, according to its first president, Professor Johann Strauss, "to make a long cherished ambition become reality."

The first leadership committee consisted of Messrs. Johann Strauss as president, Jannie Pieterse as vice president, Patrys Smith as secretary, and Thomas Langley as treasurer.

Monthly dinners with speakers were offered at the Constantia Club. After this, liaisons with other clubs were developed and the organization of junior clubs on a "union basis" was soon placed on the agenda.

On the occasion of the corps' first anniversary in 1959, a special dinner was held and a photo was taken of the members of the corps. A symbolic emblem was received as a present from the "senior corps" of Pretoria.

Meanwhile, Junior Dispatch Riders Clubs were also established in several other locations in 1959, among others in Johannesburg (Goustad), Sasolburg, and Pietersburg. By the middle of 1964, there were already 21 corps and several discussions by representatives from the various corps were held on the possibility of forming an umbrella administrative body under the tutelage of the FAK [Federation of Afrikaner Cultural Associations].

On 11 September 1964, the idea of a countrywide movement took hold when 11 of the corps proceeded with the establishment of the Federation of Junior Dispatch Riders Corps at the Constantia Club in Pretoria. On this occasion, the constitution was unanimously adopted and the first Dispatch Council (top leadership) was elected.

The Council set to work immediately and over the next 17 months it made certain that the movement was broadened administratively and became known.

They needed their own identification symbols. The logo of the bonnet, worn by the corps in Brakpan and Brits, was adopted as lapel pin.

The development of their own letterhead and the mailing of a regular Dispatch Council newsletter to the corps promoted the broadening of the movement, while direct contact and communication with every member became a possibility when the first issue of the HELIOGRAAF was published in May 1969.

Affiliation and the development of corps was strongly encouraged and by the beginning of 1971 the number of affiliated corps had risen to 107 and the number of members to 2,350.

The rapid growth in the number of corps and members during the seventies, up to 213 corps and 4,573 members by 1978, led to significant changes within the structure and procedures of the JRB.

A capacity to successfully implement modern public administration skills within the JRB also led to permanent committees and clearly defined portfolios within the Dispatch Council.

The new emblem was designed by Junior Dispatch Rider John M. Smith in 1976 and is still being used.

The most significant development for the JRB was the establishment of several projects. Thus they moved away from being an exclusively club-oriented movement toward a more needs-oriented cultural service organization. This would also open the way for other similar projects through which the JRB could export its goals.

By the time the JRB reached adulthood, the struggle for independence was promoted with the establishment of the Capital Fund. Members are encouraged to make annual contributions to the fund in order to finance the national projects. In 1978 the fund was converted into the JRB Trust Fund.

Mozambique

Chissano Hosts Swazi King in State Banquet

MB0202135892 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 0800 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] President Joaquim Chissano has said a protocol on principles to be observed during the electoral process is expected to be signed in Rome. Chissano said this during a state banquet he hosted in honor of Swazi King Mswati III who arrived in Mozambique yesterday.

During the ongoing round of peace talks in Rome, the government and the Mozambique National Resistance are discussing principles to be observed during the electoral process.

King Visits Inhambane

MB0202193192 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 1730 GMT 2 Feb 92

[Text] King Mswati III of Swaziland today left Maputo for Bazaruto Isle in Inhambane Province as part of his four-day official visit to Mozambique. He is accompanied by Mozambican Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi.

Mswati III returns to Maputo tomorrow, and his visit ends on 4 February. He is in Mozambique at the invitation of President Joaquim Chissano.

Swaziland

Police Arrest Seven Youth Congress Members 27 Jan

MB2801110092 Mbabane THE SWAZI
OBSERVER in English 28 Jan 92 pp 1, 3

[Unattributed report: "...And Cops Nab Professor, Six Others"]

[Text] Former high-treason trialist Professor Dlamini was yesterday arrested in Mbabane together with six other members of Swaziland Youth Congress (Swayoco).

The arrest of the seven was confirmed by the Police Regional Commander, Superintendent Levion Dlamini, yesterday afternoon, who disclosed that they were later released after three and a half hours.

According to Superintendent Dlamini, the seven were going to be thoroughly interrogated by the police for demonstrating in town and chanting political songs and slogans.

"Officers of the police force are still busy with them. They may be released or detained. Their fate will be decided by our findings during the interrogations they are currently undergoing now.

"We'll find out whether in their acts they did violate the King's Order in Council of 1973 or not. As of now, I do

not know if they will be released or detained. The likelihood is that they may be freed," said Superintendent Dlamini.

Meanwhile, a group of about sixty youth were sitting outside the Mbabane Police station, waiting to hear the fate of their 'Comrades'.

Their ages ranged from 16 and 22 and all of them were nursing hopes that those rounded up were going to be freed soon.

They said they had come all the way from Manzini celebrating "winning" a case.

Said one: "We were celebrating our victory and wanted to tell the other comrades here in Mbabane and then these people came. We have demonstrated before and they didn't bother us and we are only surprised about this now. Anyway we are going to wait here until our comrades emerge from the dungeon," he concluded as the others shouted "Viva Swayoco Viva".

The Swayoco youths had been demonstrating at the Mbabane bus rank [depot] and had drawn a lot of attention from the public.

Prime Minister Permits Swayoco 'Walk'

MB3101194292 Mbabane Swazi Television in English
1800 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Statement by Obed Dlamini, prime minister of Swaziland, on 31 January—live or recorded]

[Text] His Excellency the Right Honorable Prime Minister Mr. Obed Dlamini, in a move calculated to demonstrate his openness to political change in Swaziland, today granted the Swaziland Youth Congress, Swayoco, permission to hold its publicized fund-raising big walk between Mbabane and Manzini tomorrow morning. Addressing a press conference in his office late this afternoon, Mr. Dlamini, however, warned organizers of the walk to ensure that participants did not engage in any form of violence, and that they did not disturb motorists.

[Begin Dlamini video recording] I wish to remind my fellow citizens that His Majesty the King has on two occasions clearly indicated in public that he is currently in the process of appointing a constitutional commission to look into the need for devising a constitutional dispensation that will fully conform to the current wishes and political aspirations of the majority of the Swazi people.

When his commission is in place, all citizens of this country, irrespective of their political persuasions and beliefs, will be accorded the opportunity of airing their views freely to this commission on the future constitutional dispensation they wish this country to adopt. His Majesty and his government are fully committed to this important process. In the light of these developments, I wish to appeal to all my fellow citizens for your patience

and understanding, and to allow His Majesty time to finalize the process of appointing this constitutional commission.

Incidentally, the acting commissioner of police has informed me that a certain youth organization has applied to him for permission to hold a fund-raising walk from Mbabane to Manzini on 1 February 1992. After careful consideration of government's position, and notwithstanding the misgivings we all have about the propriety of the proposed walk, we have now decided to allow this walk to go ahead, on condition that the organizers thereof ensure that there are no acts of violence throughout this fund-raising activity, and that other road users are not unduly inconvenienced during the proposed walk. It is also incumbent upon the organizers of this walk to fully cooperate with the police in the task of ensuring the safety of the walkers themselves, and that of other users of this stretch of road on the day in question.

May I also take this opportunity to remind all those of you who are planning to organize public meetings, and street processions for the purpose of putting across a variety of political messages, that such activities are still outlawed in this country. May I therefore appeal to all of you to hold your horses in this regard pending the appointment of the promised constitutional commission to which such political messages could then be more profitably and appropriately addressed for consideration.

In this connection, may I also stress that government's tolerance and patience in the future will be determined by the citizens' attitudes toward their responsibility to the respect of all the laws of the country.

In the new year message I warned against the use of violence in pursuit of political aims. I made a strong appeal to the people of this country never to engage in any acts of political violence. Government is accordingly concerned about the recent report that some members, or supporters of a certain youth organization, have used acts of intimidation or harassment against certain individuals with whom they have different political perceptions. Such acts of intimidation or harassment are deplorable and must not be allowed to persist.

Any attempt at settling political differences through a show of strength, or physical harassment, are not only alien to our way of life but are also contrary to the basic principles of democracy. I accordingly wish to urge of those of you who might have been practising such tactics to stop forthwith if you genuinely have the interests of your country at heart.

We can only build a bright future for ourselves and our children on this land on the tried and proven basis of mutual tolerance and peaceful persuasion. Violence and intolerance of a dissenting view should be shunned at all costs by all those of us who are proud of being Swazis, and who are genuinely seeking peaceful solutions to all our present national problems. Political intolerance can only give rise to political violence, and political violence

in turn leads to chaos, anarchy, and economic retrogression. Is this what we want for our beautiful country? Certainly not.

To me there seems to be two political strengths in this country. On the one hand, there is a group that subscribes to the belief that political reforms in this country are not proceeding fast enough, and that government must therefore be coerced into moving quicker with the process of political reforms. On the other hand, there is a conservative group which seeks to be of the view that the present political status quo should be maintained at all cost, and that those who clamor for political reforms should be violently suppressed.

In the past I have warned this nation to gear itself up for change, not as a matter of choice, but as a matter of necessity, if it is to survive the whirlwind of political changes currently sweeping Africa and the whole world. No one person, or a small group of individuals, has a monopoly of political wisdom, so let all of us work together in peace and harmony in charting a bright and stable political future for ourselves and our children.

Thank you. [end recording]

Swayoco Praises Decision

*MB0102193092 Mbabane Radio Swaziland Network
in English 1600 GMT 1 Feb 92*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Obed Dlamini, has been described as the most outstanding (?statesman) of the century by the Swaziland Youth Council [organization name as heard] [Swayoco] after he allowed their 42 kilometer fund-raising walk between Manzini and Mbabane.

The walk ended peacefully in Manzini after seven and a half hours of taxing walk. Swayoco (?chief) warned that it would have been a different story if the police continued to steel themselves against it, as they had earlier threatened to arrest anybody taking part in it. Swayoco President Benedict Tsabedze and follower (Arile Raysom) paid special tribute to the prime minister saying he is a statesman of all times with the love of his people at heart, unlike some self-centered and illogical individuals in the Cabinet. Mr. Tsabedze also hailed the police who saw the participants safe to their destination.

The group which was just above a hundred when it started at 9.30 in the morning in Mbabane, ended up being a voluminous party of over a thousand people. The other group started in Manzini just after 9.00 in the morning until it met the one that started in Mbabane in the Ezulwini valley, and returned to Manzini. Money collected will be announced tomorrow. Mr. Tsabedze reminded Swayoco followers about launching a branch at Nhlanguano tomorrow and that they should always behave themselves as they did today.

The walk wound up with chanting of political slogans and the singing of God Bless Africa. Police took more

than three (?sheets) before the walk ended and throngs of onlookers milled the streets as the group toyi-toyed [engaged in protest dance]. The money will be used for running the congress.

March Proceeds 'Peacefully'

MB0202180992 Mbabane THE TIMES OF
SWAZILAND SUNDAY in English 2 Feb 92 pp 1, 2

[Report by Donny Nxumalo: "Swayoco [Swaziland Youth Congress] March"]

[Text] Close to 1,000 people joined the Swaziland Youth Congress (Swayoco) yesterday, and walked, peacefully from Mbabane to Manzini in an unprecedented political rally.

The walk, ostensibly to raise funds for Swayoco activities, loomed large in the past week as Swayoco leaders steeled themselves for a major show of defiance, leading possibly to a clash with police.

Earlier in the week, police had banned the walk, threatening to lock up each and every person who would take part.

But on Friday, the Prime Minister stepped in and overruled the police, unbanning the activity and calling on Swayoco members to show responsibility and avoid violence.

Leaving three hours later than originally scheduled, just over a hundred youth left Mbabane around 10am, and arrived to a rousing welcome in Manzini at 4.30 pm, now almost a thousand strong.

From the outset, the police directed traffic at the incident free walk. The youth danced the toyi-toyi dance borrowed from South Africa, and chanted slogans that were mainly against the Minister for Justice, Dr. Zonke Khumalo who was said to be running away with his hounds: "Uyabaleka Zonke nezinja zakhe."

At the end of the tiresome journey, the youths grouped up at the Manzini park where they were addressed by Swayoco president, Benedict Tsabedze; vice-president Mphandlana Shongwe and political activist and former treason trialist, Ray Russon.

Mr. Russon termed the walk a success and said that from this year onwards "forces of democracy" would embark on what he termed "Operation S'yaya ["Operation We're marching"].

He paid tribute to the Prime Minister, saying if the police were to have been allowed to arrest the Swayoco members, he shuddered to imagine what the consequences of the confrontation would have been.

"If I were a cartoonist, I would depict the Prime Minister as a fireman who extinguished an otherwise serious fire. We have always opened our door to negotiations but the

government is refusing to talk. For 1992, all talking doors should be wide open or be permanently shut," Mr. Russon said.

Mr. Tsabedze said the funds raised are now enough for Swayoco to open a bank account for financing future projects. He thanked his members for exercising discipline, contrary to accusations that Swayoco is a bunch of hot-heads hell bent on destroying the country.

He also accused the government of running a lucrative business in schools, by charging high fees. He said education should be made free because it is the right of every child and that the business run by government in schools, is making it difficult for the poor to get educated.

Mphandlana paid tribute to the police, saying for the first time, they did something worthwhile and that if they continue with their new attitude, he would feel that they deserve more money than other government departments.

The meeting ended, as usual, with the singing of the black South African National Anthem, Nkosi Sikelel'Africa [God Bless Africa].

From Mbabane town, the youths found a large contingent of police officers—most of them in a mean mood. A lot of the policemen were turned back to their stations when it became clear that there would be no confrontation. From Mbabane, the youths sang and chanted down Malagwane hill. Those that got tired would occasionally jump into police vans to rest, and would continue with chanting the slogans, even addressing the unamused cops as "Comrade policemen."

As the walk progressed, the mood of hostility broke down.

From Mbabane, the first rest stop was at Mlalatini, where drinks were issued.

During the walk, tins were handed out to the youths to ask for donations from motorists along the road.

Some grim eyed motorists would on seeing the marchers approach, wind up their windows and refuse to hand out anything.

The youths labelled those who refused to donate, "Imbokodvo [Grindstone Movement] puppets."

However others, mostly women and people in South African cars gave enthusiastically, possibly equating the marchers with the demonstrators of South Africa.

Aside from the road-side collection, there was no much happening for most of the journey until the airport turn-off, when the fun really began.

Residents of Logoba and Ka-Khoza gave the youths shouts of encouragement. In one incident, a Swayoco member approached an old woman and asked for donations. The woman threw her hands in the air and then

declared: "Kute Mfana wami. Imali yonkhe idliwe yiMbokodvo [Grindstone Movement]."

"Loosely translated the old woman was saying she had no money, and that all funds had been taken by the Mbokodvo."

Youth Congress Official Explains Group's Role

MB0302164992 Mbabane THE WEEKEND SUN
in English 24 Jan-7 Feb 92 p 11

[Statement by Nhlanhla Mncina, secretary general of the Swaziland Youth Congress [Swayoco]: "What Swayoco is all About" [article as published]

[Text] The Swaziland Youth Congress's [Swayoco] foundation was simple and straightforward.

It has been proved that the youth of this country is the most uncared for regime. To show that Swayoco loves the country and would like to see it working towards a brighter future, it is openly operating on public projects that are building for the old people in the rural areas, cleaning the locations as well as clearing the minds of the people who at this stage have not seen that the country has a problem because of being without proper leaders.

The Swaziland Youth Congress is a true blessing to the nation. It is there to facilitate change in the minds of the oppressed individuals. It is there to make it a point that the youth of this country is clean and clear in the brains so that our future leaders can have the proper values of leadership.

It is very disgracing to learn that in this world there are people who still live on other people's expense. There are people who are regarded with honour of the type of family from which they come. Such an issue is upsetting because we are all the same in the eyes of God.

Steve Biko pointed it out clear that this system of having advantaged and disadvantaged types of people in the society is very much unfair because, more especially for the disadvantaged, smart or dumb, he or she is born there and smart or dumb he or she lives in there and he will die on the riches. Then for the disadvantaged smart or dumb they are born on the poverty stricken grounds, and smart or dumb they are there.

The people of this our beloved country Swaziland have been made to live under oppressive conditions for a long time that it is difficult to evacuate them to liberty. They have been made to adapt to the law of the jungle so much so that a liberal has turned to be an enemy in front of their eyes. It is the duty of us the youth to expose the aspects leading to such inhuman criteria. We the youth of this stage are so fortunate to be amongst the individuals that can read and write thus able to see issues that are violating the rights of the people.

The foundation of the Swaziland Youth Congress was not through, and I repeat, not through foreign influence. Individuals with the same ideas, seeing the multiplying

problems of this country, gathered themselves and decided on one thing that can bring all the youth of this country together and make them or feel them with optimism in life, make their minds have creative ideas in life so that at the end of the activities leading to (most of all) criminal activity can be controlled.

The government of this country has been seen trying means of cutting down criminal activity by increasing the police force and by making laws and locking up the convicts. It is highly appreciated when such things are done because without them there can be no order in the land.

One thing that seems to be ignored is that there is always root causes for problems. Most of the people in custody for criminal activity are the youth. The youth forms almost the majority of the population of this country and if the proper methods of controlling them are not applied at the right time, the whole country automatically can rot. The country's political, economical and social stability depends on the youth.

Issues leading to such an increase in criminal activities in this country are the lack of proper facilities to occupy the youth with. If you go around this country, there are no recreational facilities for the youngsters. It is only on the private institutions that you can find say swimming pools and all the like. Not any Tom, Dick and Harry is allowed to use private facilities.

What the case should be is that public places must have public recreational facilities and such things be maintained properly so that the public feels good about them. Implements of this nature can keep the unoccupied minds of the youth busy, unlike to find the youth around corners in the streets busy discussing new tricks of theft or any other criminal activity.

To conclude things like say, the people engaged in criminal activities do such acts because they want to be rich is not true. Such things are mostly done by the starving people and the unoccupied. So to correct such an issue, the government must open more jobs, schools, provide the public with recreational facilities.

On the issue of locking up the criminals, it is rather like joking because that does not solve the problem, but instead worsens it because as more and more days pass, more and more tricks of carrying out the criminal activities are improved. The starving population that has sacrificed itself to jail just to get food or money to buy food must be fed. The youth has lost direction and has thought the best way of living is being either an alcoholic, a drug addict or maybe a more popular troublemaker. These types of concepts of life in progressive nations need eradication because they reduce stability and cause havoc.

The Government of Swaziland must stop harassing the people that are calling for the political changes in this country. To be fair, the government as it is termed by opportunists is for the people by the people. So then now

the people as stated above are now tired of it and they want to bring about change to it for their comfort's sake, so then let it change if it is for the people.

Who then is the owner of the government besides the people? If the people want their government to be changed and replaced with what they feel is all right for them, who then is persisting and why because it's their choice. The forces that are resisting the changes in short can be put in this way; that they are enjoying something from the government of theirs which in other words can be called their monopoly. Something must be done before drawn because we may end up a laughing stock in the international community.

Humaras Denies Funding by U.S. Government

MB3001182892 Mbabane Swazi Television in English 1630 GMT 30 Jan 92

[Text] Mr. Vika Khumalo, vice president of the Human Rights Association of Swaziland, Humaras, has vehemently denied allegations that his organization was funded by the United States Government. He was reacting to rumors that Humaras was the baby of the United States Government:

[Begin video recording] [Unidentified Correspondent] Humaras has denied that it has close ties with the United States Government, except that the United States Government has said a lot about human rights, and that is why many people have associated the new body with the United States Government.

[Khumalo] I would like to flatly deny that. It's not a true statement. Firstly, Humaras is financed by the Swazis themselves. We get our monies from our members, from our paid up members. We receive nothing from the U.S. Government, nor do we receive anything from the British Government.

[Correspondent] Responding on why Humaras decided to hold its conference at the Royal Swazi Sun Convention Center, instead of holding it at a place like Msunduzi, as Humaras claims to cater for the interests of the ordinary man, Mr. Khumalo said the meeting was not meant for the ordinary man in the streets, but it was meant for its delegates.

[Khumalo] There are two reasons. One, we did try to get venues or places where we could have a meeting, say at Msunduzi, at the university, and somewhere in Manzini, but we were unable to secure a venue. Two, this was a delegates only conference, it wasn't a mass meeting. So we wanted some secluded area where people could come together, discuss without any disturbances. We are planning to have a mass meeting where people, everybody who is a member of Humaras would be invited to come. [end recording]

Meanwhile a spokesman of the United States Embassy in Mbabane has confirmed that his country never signed the Universal Human Rights Declaration designed by

the United Nations members states a few years ago. The spokesman was reacting to a question by STBC [Swaziland Television Broadcasting Corporation] as to why the United States Government did not sign the declaration—because of the U.S. vigorous campaign for human rights in its official addresses locally. The spokesman further said that although his government did not sign the declaration, he did not have any further information at hand on this question. However, the spokesman promised to furnish STBC with relevant information as soon as possible.

Opposition Group's Letter to King on Situation

MB0302111292 Mbabane THE WEEKEND SUN in English 24 Jan-7 Feb 92

[Letter dated 28 June 1991, to King Mswati III from People's United Democratic Movement—Pudemo, banned opposition group]

[Text] Your Majesty, Much as we would welcome any genuine move to redress the country's political dispensation through a representative and democratic constitutional dispensation, we would like to register our strong protest about the present attempt to review the Tinkhundla [traditional community councils] system and the continued governance of this our beloved country through a State of Emergency declared on April 12 1973.

No political dispensation can be reviewed genuinely and honestly under the present climate of intimidation and fear resulting from the eighteen years of the State of Emergency. We strongly believe that there is no justification for such which hinders the respect of human dignity at a time when the world community is moving away from such draconian measures of governance.

We are aware that this attempt is not directed at addressing the fundamental core of the political problems of this country. In the light of wide-ranging popular dissatisfaction with this electoral system, your government has decided to undertake this exercise with a semblance of national participation to appease both domestic popular sentiment and the international community.

This attempt falls very short of both domestic and international democratic expectations and we once more would like to state that any bona fide attempt to find real solutions in this country's political problems would be futile so long as the State of Emergency remains firmly entrenched. The country's problems are deeply rooted in the history of the State of Emergency.

The legacy of the State of Emergency April 12 1973, when the late King Sobhuza II repealed the Independence Constitution of 1968, will go down in our history as a day of darkness when cherished democratic governance known in modern society was violated. This was a breach of the fundamental principles of the constitution and the people lost all basic freedoms enshrined in the

United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, such as the freedom of speech, assembly, association etc.

The King's Proclamation of April 12 1973 which banned political activity in Swaziland by banning political parties and meetings, and imposed a 60 day detention without trial still remains the principal legislation in the governance of this country. This proclamation remains and forms the core of the State of Emergency and has instilled intimidation, fear and insecurity in the minds of the people. The King's Proclamation of April 12 1973 stands in clear violation of the Constitutional Law in as far as the 1968 Independence Constitution stands. The repeal of the Independence Constitution was illegal, unconstitutional and an abuse of public office. King Sobhuza II was not properly advised in executing this task and as a result Swaziland is in this day and age governed without a constitution (even a society for the mentally handicapped has a constitution).

Why is the King's Proclamation unconstitutional?

Four basic violations of the Independence Constitution present clear evidence that this Proclamation marked gross constitutional irregularity.

1. Contrary to Section 134 (1) (a) of the Constitution, the Bill leading to the repeal was not moved in a joint sitting of the Senate and the House of Assembly. The two Houses were sitting separately.
2. Contrary to Section 134 (1) (b), the Bill was not published in the Swaziland Government Gazette for a prescribed period before being deliberated upon but was moved and passed the same day of April 12 1973.
3. Contrary to Section 134 (1) (e), the Bill was never referred to a National Referendum since it affected entrenched and specially entrenched provisions.
4. There was no Certificate of National Referendum presented to the King before the promulgation of the bill into law. Constitutionally speaking, the King's Proclamation of April 12 1973 is null and void.

In political terms, events of April 12 1973 mean that the Government in power in this country since then has been unconstitutional together with some of its essential institutions like the High Court and all laws enacted since April 12 1973 (this includes the Tinkhundla System).

There is a clear constitutional case in this matter and we believe that it would be in the interest of our people and the civilized world to challenge the repeal of the Constitution before the International Court of Justice. It is our belief that this will help enhance our course (sic) in the world community.

MEANINGFUL DEMOCRATIC CHANGE WE DEMAND: [all caps as published]

1. An immediate upliftment of the State of Emergency. No meaningful and sincere change, that would involve the majority of our people, can be effected under conditions of a State of Emergency where human freedoms are not guaranteed; meetings are not allowed; there is political harassment and detention without trial.

In 1990 alone twelve citizens were charged with unfounded High Treason just because they were expressing some democratic ideals; six were detained without trial and one outspoken member of Parliament was harassed and his employer instructed to terminate his services for exercising his right to debate in Parliament. Clearly, in a situation where even members of Parliament are not safe and are refused to exercise their freedoms e.g. speech, there cannot be talk of genuine political change where the nation can participate.

We therefore urge His Majesty to apply himself to the political plight of this country by revoking the King's Proclamation of 1973 which would automatically uplift the State of Emergency and restore national dignity and respect for the people's basic democratic process.

2. A national Convention whereby the different political parties which would emerge when the above is met would come together to work out details of the democratic process.

3. An Interim Government. A task of such fundamental national importance can only be carried out by a properly constituted and impartial government. An interim government with limited powers formed possibly by the National Convention of the different political parties would facilitate a fair democratic process without any biases in favour of one group.

The need for such is as a result of the fact that if one examines the history of the present government one is convinced that its policies are deeply rooted in the Imbokodvo [grindstone] National Movement. In fact the present government is almost 100 percent Imbokodvo personnel and it is in fact furthering the aims and objectives of this "illegal" political party as enshrined in its Manifesto.

The Tinkhundla System is in fact one of the policies of the Imbokodvo National Movement in terms of its Manifesto (See Article 9 and 98). The Tinkhundla Review Committee is itself predominantly Imbokodvo. This leaves us with one conclusion that Imbokodvo is clandestinely in power and that Swaziland is not a one-party state as we are made to believe but a one-party state.

So it becomes clear that if the present government would oversee the democratic process it would be strongly biased in favour of Imbokodvo.

4. A National Referendum. This would help solicit views on a desirable constitutional dispensation i.e. whether the Independence Constitution should be retained, amended or a new one be drafted.

5. Subject to the above, a Constituent Assembly would have to be set up to either amend or draft a new constitution.

In view of the above factors we request your Government to arrest the Tinkhundla review exercise and embark on more tangible steps to effect true plural democracy. We are willing to open talks with the Government on the above programme to avoid any form of

conflict which would make Swaziland a threat to peace and stability in southern Africa. For this process to take place we believe that a conducive climate has to be created which would include an end to detention without trial and political harassment, an unconditional return of all exiles and most importantly an uplift of State of Emergency.

Yours in the name of democracy,

General Secretary, National Executive Committee, The People's United Democratic Movement [Pudemo]

Authorities Cite 'Dramatic Upsurge' in Drug Abuse

*MB0302191292 Johannesburg Radio RSA in English
1100 GMT 3 Feb 92*

[From the "Africa South" program]

[Text] Despite new amendments to Swaziland's drug laws, there has been a dramatic increase in the trafficking and use of illegal drugs. Authorities fear that drug abuse will soon equal alcohol abuse as Swaziland's worst social problem. Tom Holloway has the details:

[Begin recording] [Holloway] Up till only two or three years ago Swaziland's drug abuse problem was confined mainly to the illegal cultivation and use of dagga [marijuana]. Now, however, investigations and observations by the executive director of Swaziland's Council on Smoking, Alcohol and Drug Abuse, David Pritchard, have shown a variety of drugs, including the hard drugs, mandrax, cocaine, heroin, and even some opium are becoming increasingly available in the country's densely populated areas.

[Pritchard] There is a networking of traffickers—a travel corps or whatever you want to call it—and often things will come through Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Swaziland, but destined for South Africa. And so something comes through Swaziland in the way of drugs, and there is a good chance that some of it gets dropped off here for local consumption, or the stuff is coming in from the Far East and coming into Mozambique, and then into Swaziland, and into South Africa. The same thing can happen.

[Holloway] With the Swaziland police force, as no doubt with South Africa's, already over-stretched, tackling an upsurge of general crime, how does Mr. Pritchard suggest the drug abuse problem can best be tackled?

[Pritchard] Unquestionably our biggest weapon is education, and the work that I do suggests to me that there is an incredibly low level of knowledge and awareness about the risks and dangers that are involved in all three of the substances—tobacco, alcohol and drugs. [end recording]

Hail, Drought Destroy Maize Crop Amid Heat Wave

*MB0302170892 Mbabane Radio Swaziland Network
in English 1600 GMT 3 Feb 92*

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives says last Friday's hail storm has dealt a fatal blow to what was left of the country's maize crop, after most of it was destroyed by persistent drought. The ministry's deputy information officer, Mr. Phillip Shabangu, said promising maize fields in the northern Hhohho region and the middleveld were hammered badly by the storm, dashing the ministry's last hope. He predicted further catastrophe as more hailstorms are coming in April.

Mr. Shabangu said the present heat wave is similar to that of 1981-82 which once affected Swaziland. He said areas most affected by the heat wave are the Lubombo region, and most of Swaziland's semi-arid areas from Lavumisa to northern Hhohho region. Mr. Shabangu urged farmers to make use of the late rains by planting beans, sweet potatoes, and vegetables. He advised farmers in the middleveld to plant maize they intend to sell as green mealies. Mr. Shabangu said for other areas planting maize is now out of the question, and urged those who still have stocks of dry mealies to use it sparingly.

Zambia

General Miyanda Denies Attempt on Vice President

*MB3101173892 London BBC World Service in English
1515 GMT 31 Jan 92*

[Interview with Zambia's Brigadier General Godfrey Miyanda by Elizabeth Ohene in London on 31 January on the "Focus on Africa" program—recorded]

[Text] Brigadier General Godfrey Miyanda has become a name to conjure with in Zambia. He is a leading member of the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] government which wrested power from Kenneth Kaunda in last October's election. Not only that, but he was made acting vice president after Levy Mwanawasa was injured in a mysterious car crash last month.

But at the commission of inquiry set up to investigate the crash, it was suggested that the general was involved in attempting to assassinate Mwanawasa and also in a plot against President Chiluba.

Well, Gen. Miyanda has been in London for the past two weeks. He came into our studio this afternoon and Elizabeth Ohene asked him what he made of those accusations.

[Miyanda] Well, first of all, I shouldn't be misunderstood. I would rather that I go to attend the commission in order to answer. Otherwise, talking from here, might appear like I am trying to, you know, to interfere with

due process. However, as far as I am concerned, there is nothing to it. In my view, this is just politics, people are politicking, because nothing of this nature happened. I am not involved in any plot against nobody.

[Ohene] I think it is the second time your name has come up, with a plot against the president, Chiluba himself?

[Miyanda] Well, I am not aware, I am here. I have been here for two weeks now. So, obviously, I have to get back home. But, I can tell you that I have no such ideas. I have never participated in any plot against anybody.

[Ohene] You say it is politics. It must mean that the MMD, far from being a cohesive grouping, is falling apart.

[Miyanda] No, certainly not. You see, when people are impatient, they want things to happen, they think of all types of reasons why whatever they aspiring for is not happening; and it is possible there may be one or two people who believe that perhaps Miyanda is the one who is standing in the way of achieving their aspirations. So, we forgive them. Let them make up their stories, but the truth always remains the truth.

[Ohene] So, you are going back to Zambia and going before this commission of inquiry?

[Miyanda] I am ready. In fact, before I left, I actually presented myself to the commission but I think they had other programs. I actually requested that I be allowed to speak, because this program, my presence here, was arranged last year. So, I knew that I will be traveling. So, I went to the commission and said...

[Ohene, interrupts] So, your name had come up after all, before the commission, before you came here?

[Miyanda] I wasn't even aware. It was just about two days or so, when I was about to leave. I was in the Eastern Province on a tour (?camp), a visit, and then I heard my name mentioned on the radio. So, I think it was the next day or the day after, I went to the commission and they asked me why I had gone there and I said I had come because I heard my name was mentioned; if they required me to appear. Then they said they would call me at a later day. But I also explained that I will be out of the country. So, I had heard about it, but, subsequently, I understand from telephone calls that there have been further allegations against me. It is part

of the game and (?now that) I am going home, all those who think that I am involved in something will be given a chance to question me.

'Credibility' of Witness in 'Doubt'

MB0302191192 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 3 Feb 92

[Text] Commissioners seating in the commission of inquiry investigating the accident in which Vice President Levy Mwanawasa was involved last December said they doubt the credibility of the evidence given by a witness who claimed to have seen former President Kenneth Kaunda, State House Assistant Police Commissioner Ernest Nyerenda, and Minister Without Portfolio Brigadier General Godfrey Miyanda at a farm house in Makeni on 15 November last year.

The commission summoned George Kisanga, a member of the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] security wing who gave evidence previously to answer questions today and to verify his earlier testimony which in some cases was contradictory.

Mr. Kisanga, a former paratrooper in the Army, had got a tip about the alleged meeting in Makeni on 15 November 1991 from a source at Soweto Market in Lusaka at about 0900 hours and immediately rushed to the MMD Secretariat to report it to his seniors.

The witness said when he got to Makeni he found that the official cars belonging to all the service chiefs were parked at a farm house with drivers waiting in the parked cars. Mr. Kisanga insisted that he saw former President Kenneth Kaunda with Assistant Police Commissioner at State House Ernest Nyerenda and Gen. Godfrey Miyanda.

The last time Mr. Kisanga gave evidence, he told the commission that he had taken note of the registration number of the car which he said was from the Office of the President but today Mr. Kisanga had at one point said he had not written down the number and again changed the statement to say he had taken the number down though he could not remember it.

Mr. Kisanga also complained to the commission that since he gave his evidence he has been threatened by the state police who wanted to force him to give them more evidence.

Liberia

Taylor Says Relations With Nigeria 'Improved'

*AB2501164992 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1900 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Text] The NPRA [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly] chairman, President Charles Gankay Taylor, has reiterated the NPFL's [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] commitment to defending the sovereignty of the nation and the establishment of a [words indistinct] (?adequately) respond to the needs of the Liberian people. A release from the office of the presidential press secretary said President Taylor, who was speaking in an interview with a Lagos-based newspaper, THE AFRICAN CONCORD, at the Executive Mansion in Gbarnga recently, said Liberians have gained a sense of (?patriotism) more than they have lost a year ago. He spoke highly of an improved bilateral relations between the Front and the Nigerian Government of President Ibrahim Babangida. Commenting on the NPRA's [word indistinct] relation, President Taylor noted that the coming into being of a joint elections commission and a joint ad hoc Supreme Court [word indistinct] for supporting a joint economic and reconstruction commission which could be discussed in the same vein, taking the national interest into account.

Meanwhile, officials of the African Development Bank, the ADB, and UNDP who have met with President Taylor have accepted the idea of a joint economic reconstruction commission.

Sawyer Rejects NPFL Proposal on Economic Body

*AB2401094592 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 23 Jan 92*

[Text] The interim president, Amos Sawyer, says the government will not participate in any scheme designed to make the Liberian people [words indistinct]. He said it is in keeping with this principle that he had most recently rejected a request by the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, the NPFL, to establish a joint economic commission, emphasizing that the government will not honor any negotiation which tends to wreck or plunder the Liberian economy.

According to the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY, President Sawyer made the statement yesterday at the Capitol Building when he formally inducted Representatives Bismak Kuyon and James Giko, speaker and deputy speaker respectively of the Interim Legislative Assembly. He said while the interim government remains open to work with all Liberians in pursuance of national reconciliation, it will not accept any such measures that could (?divide) the Liberian people or ruin the national economy.

President Sawyer also said that the government would not give credence to the idea of two governments in this country, noting that the interim government of national

unity is the only legitimate government in the country as envisaged under the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] peace plan. He said while his government remains faithful to the ECOWAS peace plan, which can bring normalcy to the country, the interim government will not accept the idea of two government structures and institutions as this will only lead up to the division of the Liberian people.

The president pointed out that the only goodwill of the NPFL now is to carry out the mandate of the Liberian people by disarming and (?encamping) its fighters under the ECOMOG's supervision because, he said, the partial reopening of the roads with the presence of armed men on the highways poses serious threats to the free movement of the people.

ECOMOG Issues Statement on Arms Recovery

*AB0202211592 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 2 Feb 92*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] In the Liberian capital, Monrovia, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-fire Monitoring Group] soldiers are scouring the city for illegally held arms and ammunition left over after the country's bloody civil war. The search is taking place under the terms of the Yamoussoukro peace agreement and began yesterday. Today, ECOMOG revealed what had been found, as Klon Hine reports in this telex from Monrovia:

[Begin studio announcer recording] ECOMOG has revealed that it had recovered large quantities of arms, ammunition, and other warlike materials in the city of Monrovia yesterday. In a press statement issued here today, ECOMOG said while some of the weapons so far recovered were found during searching of houses and other suspicious areas, many others were voluntarily turned in to the ECOMOG soldiers. The statement did not say whether those who voluntarily turned their arms in were former combatants. ECOMOG said some of the arms were recovered by citizens tipping off soldiers with information about suspected hidden arms.

The search operation continues today on Bushrod Island, Garnersville, and other suburbs of Monrovia. ECOMOG Field Commander Major General Ishaya Bakut urged all citizens to feel free to come forward and surrender weapons in their possession or give information that could facilitate the recovery of still hidden weapons.

Bakut, who personally toured the city yesterday to observe the operation, told citizens in different parts of the city that no one would be sanctioned for arms they voluntarily handed in to ECOMOG. He also appealed to citizens not to molest anyone from whom the ECOMOG

troops recover any weapon, saying the aim of the operation was not punitive but to make the Liberian capital safer for all citizens.

Some independent reports have said that in some communities residents attacked people from whom ECOMOG retrieved arms and ammunition. [end recording]

NPRA Condemns Arms Search

*AB0302085292 Gbarnga Radio ELBC in English
1900 GMT 2 Feb 92*

[Text] The NPRA [National Patriotic Reconstruction Assembly] government has described as a violation of the constitutional rights of the Liberian people the current searches of homes and the illegal seizure of weapons in Monrovia by ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] and other security units in the city and its environs. The NPRA government says this exercise amounts to illegal seizure and search. It reportedly described the exercise as outrageously dangerous and unacceptable.

In a separate press statement issued from the Executive Mansion yesterday, the NPRA government said it had stated on numerous occasions that Liberia is a sovereign nation where human rights of citizens are protected by the law. The NPRA government said under the Constitution which is the supreme and organic law of the country, all searches and seizures must be conducted on the issuance of search warrants which are [words indistinct]. The press statement spoke of the need to pursue the due process of law through the courts where (?new) search warrants are issued on [words indistinct].

In a strongly worded statement, the NPRA government said the current search by ECOMOG and other security units in Monrovia is intolerable, unacceptable, and (?unbelievable) in the due process of law [words indistinct]. The statement says that the searches and the illegal seizure are taking place in Monrovia (?and are) tantamount to a violation of the Liberian Constitution and [words indistinct] the nation. The NPRA government expressed [word indistinct] state of emergency anywhere. The illegal searches and seizure by ECOMOG and other security units in Monrovia must be halted immediately. The NPRA government statement said because of the gravity of the situation, the Liberian leader, President Charles Gankay Taylor, will be officially giving the NPRA government's position on the illegal search at 1200 midday tomorrow at the Executive Mansion.

According to reports, a so-called [words indistinct] Monrovia was formed yesterday in Monrovia by ECOMOG, assisted by troops and personnel of the Monrovia Police Force, [words indistinct], Armed Forces of Liberia, and the Sawyer Special Security Services [word indistinct]. Under the so-called exercise, already [words indistinct] arms, ammunition, explosives, and [words indistinct]

continue to be received from Monrovia and its environs. As a result of this exercise, [words indistinct] ECOMOG and other security units including the AFL in Monrovia will be conducting house to house searches, [words indistinct] commercial buildings, and other areas in Monrovia and its environs. The situation in Liberia deplores the illegal searches and [words indistinct] individual rights, equality, and decency, appealing to the [word indistinct] interest of the individual. Opportunely, the NPRA government's decision on the issue will be made officially known on Monday [3 February] at 12 noon.

Cooperation Urged

*AB0302105292 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 3 Feb 92*

[Text] Large quantities of arms and ammunition as well as other warlike materials have been retrieved by the West African peacekeeping force in Liberia. The weapons were retrieved during a security search of Monrovia and its environs, which began on Saturday [1 February]. The exercise is part of an attempt by the peacekeeping force to rid the city of illegally acquired weapons.

An ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] release over the weekend said most of the weapons were retrieved as a result of tipoffs by citizens who assisted ECOMOG with information about the hidden arms. The ECOMOG field commander, Major General Ishaya Bakut, who [words indistinct], said the exercise is not a punitive measure but one intended to make Monrovia safer. He urged citizens to cooperate with the peacekeeping force, (?adding that) no punitive measures will be taken against any individual who voluntarily turns in arms in his possession. Gen. Bakut also appealed to citizens not to molest anyone who has turned in weapons or from whom ECOMOG has recovered weapons. The exercise, which started on Saturday, [1 February] continues today with searches in others parts of Monrovia.

Meanwhile, the West African peace monitoring group says all entry points in Liberia will shortly be manned by ECOMOG troops to ensure that arms are not smuggled into the country. The field commander, Maj. Gen. Ishaya Bakut, speaking at news conference on Friday, [31 January] disclosed that ECOMOG has already completed the inspection of all border posts and entry points, including Liberian-Ivorian border. Gen. Bakut said all necessary data have been collected for the deployment of ECOMOG troops at these points.

Meanwhile, the force's field commander said ECOMOG will this week begin the deployment of troops throughout the country. At a news conference, the ECOMOG field commander said troops will first be deployed in Grand Cape Mount, Maryland, (?Bomi), and Grand Bassa County. He said the force had begun to (?ensure) security corridor along the Liberia-Sierra Leonean border, saying that once this exercise is completed, NPFL [National Patriotic Front of

Liberia] armed men will no longer [word indistinct] man checkpoints along the highways. Gen. Bakut noted that considerable progress will be made in the (?peace) process and assured Liberians that ECOMOG will be guided by the Yamoussoukro IV Accords during the disarmament and encampment exercise.

Mali

Government Communique on Talks With Students

AB0102202592 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television
du Mali Radio in French 0700 GMT 29 Jan 92

[Government communique issued in Bamako on 29 January—live or recorded]

[Text] For some time now, intense negotiations have been going on between the government and the Association of Malian Students and Pupils [AEEM] as can be seen from the 16 January meeting at the sports complex, the discussions that followed the 23 January march, and those of 28 January at the prime minister's office.

In conformity with this spirit of dialogue, the government confirms what follows: Within the limit of a ceiling of 4.8 billion CFA francs, the government has accepted the formula of paying for the 1991-92 academic year a full term scholarship of 20,350 CFA francs for secondary school students who have obtained an average mark equal to or higher than 11.5. It is understood that for the 1992-93 academic year, the minimum average mark required for getting a full scholarship remains fixed at 12. In this context, it may be recalled that all the regular students in secondary schools already benefit from half scholarships in the form of teaching equipment, health facilities, cultural and sports activities, etc.

Furthermore, the 25-percent increase will be effective in January 1992. The government reaffirms that those accused of bloodshed will be tried before the end of the transition.

The Cabinet, which will sit today, 29 January, will adopt social measures in favor of the victims of January to March 1991. While awaiting the availability of an administrative building, the government will bear the cost of renting the AEEM headquarters. Owing to the disturbance of the academic year, the government has decided to postpone the first term examinations for secondary schools from 3 to 10 February 1992. For professional schools, the government confirms that measures are being adopted to enable students to continue their studies in a cycle that is immediately higher according to upcoming rules. For example, students of the Center for Professional Training or an equivalent school who hold the Professional Efficiency Certificate may continue their studies for the Certificate of Technician [BT] at l'ETICA [expansion unknown]. Similarly, students graduating from l'ETICA or a similar school with the BT may continue their studies at the School of Administration or the National School of Engineers

[ENI]. The government has in principle agreed to the extension of the EHP [expansion unknown] cycle in the fields of computer science, chartered accountancy which will be created soon. The government has confirmed its agreement in principle for the extension of the engineer's cycle at the ENI and the IPER [expansion unknown] at Katebougou.

The government recalls that the 12th grade students at l'AESICA [expansion unknown] and professional schools who are entitled to practical training will continue to benefit from training allowances. These measures adopted by the government represent an exceptional financial effort and an enormous sacrifice that the whole nation has made in favor of pupils and students, despite the economic and budgetary difficulties of the country and the other educational priorities in Mali.

The government and parents have the right to expect from students and pupils, those in secondary schools in particular, a responsible attitude toward the normal continuation of classes and respect for teachers and school administration. At a time when the entire Malian people are completing the setting up of the democratic institutions of the Third Republic, the government will no longer tolerate a handful of agitators' continuing to soil the memory of the martyrs and to disturb order and discipline in schools and universities and on public thoroughfares. The Government of the Republic of Mali will assume its responsibilities—all its responsibilities—against the enemies of democracy and their objective allies. The government appeals to all democrats, all patriots, and all those who remain faithful to the 26 March 1991 spirit so that the setting up of the Third Republic will take place in tranquillity and social peace.

[Issued in] Bamako, 28 January 1992

Student Group Issues Communique

AB0202145092 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television
du Mali Radio in French 1300 GMT 30 Jan 92

['Text' of communique issued by the Coordination Bureau of the Association of Malian Students and Pupils, AEEM; read by studio announcer, date and place not given—live]

[Text] Considering the irresponsible and criminal acts perpetrated on some secondary and higher education students and seeing that the Coordination Bureau must defend the material and moral interests of Malian students, including their physical integrity:

Considering that no one should prevent students from studying as they desire; seeing the physical aggression committed against certain students who want to study normally; taking into account the statutes and internal regulations of the AEEM, the Coordination Bureau has decided to suspend the following comrades from all activities within the AEEM:

Boubacar Kone of Askia Mohammed Senior Secondary School, former secretary general;

Makan Konate of Askia Mohammed Senior Secondary School, former administrative secretary;

Yacouba Diakite Perpetue, former secretary general;

Sidi Diallo, Secondary Technical School, former secretary general,

Moussa Balla Diakite, School of Medicine;

and (Eric Koyite) of Bouyagi Fadiga Senior Secondary School.

At the same time, the Coordination Bureau rejects any responsibility for the dishonorable acts committed by a group of manipulated secondary students; asks secondary and higher students not to allow anyone to disturb classes by [giving] irresponsible orders; wishes a quick recovery to the comrades injured during the regrettable incidents, and calls on students of secondary schools and higher institutions to mobilize themselves and to block the way to the enemies of democracy and their stooges.

[Signed] Coordination Bureau of the AEEM

Niger

Border With Algeria Closed for 'Security Reasons'

AB0102112292 Paris AFP in English 1033 GMT
1 Feb 92

[Text] Niamey, Feb 1 (AFP)—Niger authorities have decided to close the main crossing point between Niger and Algeria as of Saturday [1 February] for security reasons, the Niger Press Agency said.

Observers said that the closure amounted to a de facto sealing of the border between the two countries. The decision to close the Assamaka border post, linking Tamanrasset in southern Algeria to the Tuareg-dominated zone of northern Niger, comes amid a mounting rebellion against Niger authorities by the nomadic Tuaregs.

The revolt has intensified in the last four months, during which attacks have been carried out against convoys of European tourists. The bulk of tourists transit through the Assamaka post. One convoy was attacked by a group of rebels overnight on January 22 between Arlit and Agadez in northern Niger. Five European tourists were wounded in shooting between the rebels and the military during the incident.

The decision to close the border post appeared to be aimed at avoiding further incidents involving Europeans, but also to cut off the Tuaregs' foreign contacts.

According to unconfirmed reports circulating here, the Tuaregs are using so-called "tourist convoys" to bring

weapons into the country from Algeria. The rebels are estimated to number from 400 to 1,000 men.

Further on Border Closing

AB0102160092 Niamey Voix du Sahel Network
in French 1900 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] By order of the interior minister: For security reasons and until further notice, a ban has been imposed on entry into Niger through the Assamaka land border post effective 1 February. The prefect of Agadez Department, the chief of general staff of the National Armed Forces, the chief of the National Gendarmerie Corps, the chief of the Republican Guard Corps, and the director general of national security are charged with implementing the present order, which will be published in the Republic of Niger's official gazette.

Unemployed Demonstrate, Hold Minister 'Hostage'

AB3001215592 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1830 GMT 30 Jan 92

[Text] In Niger, the unemployed today took to the streets and held the minister of civil service hostage. [no further explanation] Indeed, these unemployed have used all means available to them to convey their complaints and, in particular, to draw the authorities' attention to their problem. Africa No.1 correspondent, Malam Yaro, reports from Niamey:

[Begin recording] The major demand of the association of the unemployed is the nationalization of civil service and private sector jobs. The association's officials, who have been very active in recent days through their street demonstrations and sit-ins at some public places, stated that they will continue with their action until their demands were met. This morning again, the Ministry of Civil Service and Labor was cordoned off by security forces because the demonstrators, who found themselves face to face with the police, had again threatened to besiege the ministry building. The ministry's staff, who were still recovering from their ordeal of the previous day after being set free, are now worried about the turn the matter is likely to take in the next few days.

However, according to the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Civil Service and Labor, a commission charged with examining the problems involved in nationalizing jobs, has been set up by the ministry. This commission, which includes several government, management, and workers representatives, is yet to begin its sessions, which have been postponed on several occasions. The association described the postponements as a delay tactic and also accused the authorities of keeping silent over their problem. [end recording]

New Political Party Holds Constituent Meeting

*AB2801091292 Paris AFP in French 0903 GMT
22 Jan 92*

[Text] Niamey, 22 Jan (AFP)—A fourth party [new] in Niger known as the Social and Democratic Convention [CDS], ended its constituent meeting here last night. Following the four-day meeting, the CDS adopted its statutes and confirmed Mr. Mahamane Ousmane as head of its Political Bureau.

The former single ruling party, the National Movement of the Development Society, the Niger Party for Democracy and Socialism, and the Niger Progressive Party-African Democratic Rally have already met this legal obligation. Virtually absent from the political scene since November 1991 when the National Conference set up interim democratic institutions, the major parties seem to be establishing themselves gradually.

According to the NIGER PRESS AGENCY, Mr. Ousmane, however, stressed that the CDS's future would depend on the ability of members to unite. After the national conference, 37 parties, mostly small groups, were in effect provisionally recognized by the government.

Meanwhile, the CDS leader said he was "ready to form an alliance with truly democratic parties which pursue sociodemocratic policies." "The unity of democratic forces is absolutely necessary to prevent the conservative forces from confiscating the democratization process in Niger," he stated.

Nigeria

Further on Visit by Namibian President Nujoma

Babangida, Nujoma Speak at Banquet

*AB0202145592 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network
in English 2100 GMT 1 Feb 92*

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida has emphasized the need for African countries to come together to solve the multifarious problems of the continent. General Babangida, who is the chairman of the Organization of African Unity, noted that such problems included debt burden and paucity of investment. He asserted that the situation could no longer be ignored if the desired continental economic integration was to be achieved.

President Babangida made the remark in Abuja at a state banquet in honor of the visiting Namibian president. Dr. Sam Nujoma. The OAU chairman also stressed the need for Africa to find lasting solutions to political conflicts in nations like the Sudan, Chad, Liberia, Somalia, and other countries with similar problems.

On Nigeria-Namibia relations, Gen. Babangida noted that it dated back to many years before the country's independence. He stressed that no efforts should be spared in strengthening existing relations.

In his response, President Nujoma commended the Federal Government and Nigerians for the moral and financial support during and after his country's struggle for independence. He declared that Namibians would never forget Nigeria's role in the history of their country.

Cooperation Accord Signed; Nujoma Departs

*AB0302195492 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network
in English 1500 3 Feb 92*

[Text] Nigeria and Namibia have expressed their wish for an early ratification of the African economic treaty. In a communique jointly signed at the end of the three-day visit of the Namibian president, Dr. Sam Nujoma, and General Ibrahim Babangida, the two leaders noted that the ratification would facilitate the implementation of the treaty and enhance South-South cooperation. Both leaders reaffirmed their desire to strengthen existing bilateral relations between the two countries in all spheres, including economic, cultural, and political issues. To this end, they agreed to instruct their officials to speedily execute all agreements reached by the two countries for the rapid take-off of the various bilateral endeavors. Presidents Babangida and Nujoma noted with interest the development of business relationship in the fields of petroleum and banking which they said was in line with the African economic treaty.

On regional matters, the two leaders welcomed the current proceedings of the convention for a democratic South Africa. They described the participation of the African National Congress as a positive development in the global effort toward the establishment of a nonracial and democratic South Africa. They agreed to cooperate closely toward the realization of a lasting solution for the South African problem. President Babangida expressed support for the current negotiation for the reintegration into Namibia of Walvis Bay and Offshore Islands. Both leaders also discussed various inter-African conflicts, especially the crisis situation in Liberia, Sudan, Rwanda, and Somalia, as well as the ongoing peace process in Angola. They called on all the warring factions to cooperate with competent organs in the concerted efforts to achieve durable peace in these regions. President Nujoma has since left for home.

Babangida Departs for Ethiopia, Djibouti

*AB0302194592 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in
English 1800 GMT 3 Feb 92*

[Text] President Ibrahim Babangida today left Abuja for Addis Ababa at the start of a three-day official visit to Ethiopia and Djibouti. General Babangida will hold talks with the president of the Ethiopian Transitional Government, Mr. Meles Zenawi. Tomorrow, the OAU chairman will address the Council of Representatives of the Ethiopian Transitional parliament. After tomorrow, General Babangida will undertake a working visit to the OAU headquarters in Addis Ababa at which he will lay the foundation stone of the organization's conference center.

Before leaving Ethiopia on Wednesday [5 February], the OAU chairman will address the African and international diplomatic community in Addis Ababa. President Babangida will make a stopover in Djibouti during which he will hold talks with President Aptidon before returning to Abuja.

Military Handover to Civilian Rule in January 1993

AB0102154092 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 31 Jan 92

[Text] The Nigerian Government has confirmed January 1993 as the date for the military hand over to the civilian president. Confirming the date in Lagos today at his weekly press briefing, Vice President Augustus Aikhomu said 1 October was a presumption and not the actual date for handing over.

According to guidelines of the presidential and national assembly elections by the National Electoral Commission, the presidential election will take place on December 5th. Vice President Aikhomu maintained that the transition program was still on course.

He disclosed that the government would soon establish a committee to look into the conflict that had arisen from the issue of asset sharing among some of the new states in the country.

Two Service Chiefs Appointed, Officers Redeployed

AB0302150092 Kaduna Radio Nigeria in English 1700 GMT 30 Jan 92

[Text] Two new service chiefs have been appointed. They are the flag officer in charge of the Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral (Stan Christian Omashola), who becomes the new chief of naval staff, and air officer, logistics, Air Vice Marshall (Akindada), who becomes the new chief of air staff.

Sources at the defense headquarters in Lagos today said the former chief of naval staff, Vice Admiral Murtala Nyako has been appointed deputy chief of defense staff. There was no mention of the former chief of air staff, Air Marshall Nuraini Yusuf but the source said the appointments were part of the redeployments in the Defense Ministry.

The former commandant of the Nigerian Defense Academy, Major General Garba Duba, and the former commandant of the National War College, Major General Jeremiah Ofeli, who have been promoted Lieutenant Generals, have been redeployed as chief of training and operations and chief of logistics.

The flag officer for the Western Naval Command, Rear Admiral Babatunde Elegbede, who has been promoted vice admiral, has been deployed to the defense headquarters. Major General Halidu, formerly commandant of

the Command and Staff College, Jiagi-Kaduna, has moved to defense headquarters as chief of research and development.

Three principal officers at the defense headquarters were also appointed commandants. They include former chief of administration, Major General Aliyu Mohamed, now deployed to the Nigerian Defense Academy as commandant.

All the changes, approved by the president, will take effect from tomorrow [31 January].

Official Urges Ex-Servicemen Play Political Role

AB3101133592 Dakar PANA in English 1219 GMT 30 Jan 92

[Text] Osogbo (Nigeria), 30 Jan (NAN/PANA)—Sh. hu Musa Yar'adua, the former vice president of the Supreme Military Council which ruled Nigeria for three years from 1976, said in Osogbo, western Nigeria, Wednesday that the involvement of retired military officers in partisan politics would check military coups in the country.

Answering questions from newsmen after paying a courtesy call on the governor of Osum State, Isiaka Adeleke, the general said that serving military officers desirous of ruling the country should resign and contest elections.

He said that it would be discriminatory if retired officers were banned from participating in partisan politics. Under the Babangida military administration, former military officers were prohibited from participating in politics. Yar'adua was arrested in December and released later that month for contravening the ban, which has since been lifted.

Government Protests Saudi Restrictions on Haj

AB0302212092 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 3 Feb 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Nigerian Government has formally protested to Saudi Arabia against new AIDS restrictions imposed on Nigerians wishing to take part in the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca.

The controversy began when the main Saudi Consulate in northern Nigeria refused to issue visas to Nigerian citizens wishing to attend the Haj without a certificate confirming they had not contracted AIDS. David Banford in Lagos reports:

[Begin Banford recording] The Nigerian Foreign Ministry confirmed that it had summoned the Saudi charge d'affaires and handed him a protest letter. This followed reports that the Saudi Consulate in Kano was demanding AIDS certificates before issuing Nigerian applicants Haj visas. The Foreign Ministry described this demand as anti-Islamic and discriminatory.

Arab diplomatic sources say that following the Nigerian Government's protest, the demand for AIDS certificates has been withdrawn for the time being. The consulate is said to be awaiting new instructions from the Saudi Government but in the mean time has resumed issuing visas to Nigerian pilgrims.

The diplomatic wrangle seems to stem from new Saudi instructions to its foreign embassies to be extra vigilant against suspected AIDS carriers. The Saudi consulate general in Kano decided to exchange the already existing

AIDS certificate requirement concerning resident visas to cover all visas following publicity about the increase in Nigerian AIDS cases.

The sharp reaction by the Nigerian Government seems to reflect a general annoyance in which Nigerians believe they are being singled out for special scrutinization when it comes to visa applications. Diplomatic sources in several embassies say they are generally correct in that belief. It is nowadays much harder for legitimate Nigerian business people to get visas, they say, because the number of cases of drug smuggling and fraud involving Nigerian citizens has become too high to ignore. [end recording]

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